

Study Guide for Part One: The Gods

The Titans and the Twelve Great Olympians

Who: *Titans* – Cronus (Saturn), Ocean, Mnemosyne, Themis, Atlas, Prometheus

Questions: Who were the Titans? What happened to them? What's the Golden Age?

Who: *Olympians* -- Zeus (Jupiter), Poseidon (Neptune), Hades (Pluto), Hestia (Vesta), Hera (Juno), Ares (Mars), Athena (Minerva), Apollo, Aphrodite (Venus), Hermes (Mercury), Artemis (Diana), Hephaestus (Vulcan).

Key Terms: Mount Olympus, Seasons, ambrosia, nectar

Questions on **Zeus**: How did Zeus gain power? Why was he depicted as having so many extramarital affairs? Who is even stronger than Zeus? Where was his oracle? How did it work? What are some of the objects associated with him? What is the aegis?

Questions on **Hera**: Who was she and who did she protect on earth? Who is Ilithyia? What city/bird/animal are associated with her? How would you describe her relationship with her husband?

Questions on **Poseidon**: What did he rule? Who is his wife? Where did he live? What animal did he give to mankind? What (besides Neptune) is he frequently called? What is the trident?

Questions on **Hades**: what does Pluto mean? Who and what is he king of? What did his famous cap do to whoever wore it? Who was his wife? How would you describe his personality/

Questions on **Pallas Athena**: Who were her parents? Over whom is she the protector? What did she invent? What words are frequently used to describe her? What was her relationship like with Zeus? What does Parthenos mean? Where is the Parthenon? What is her bird/tree/city?

Questions on **Phoebus Apollo**: Who were his parents? Where was he born? What instrument does he play? What did he first teach men? Of what is he the god? Where was his oracle? What (besides the oracle) was so special about the site? How did the oracle work? What is a tripod? Who was Python? What does Phoebus mean? What is his tree/animal?

Questions on **Artemis**: What is she also called (besides Diana)? Who are her parents? Who are the three maiden goddesses? What's her personality like? What does she love to do? What's her connection to the moon? Who is Hecate? What animal/tree was sacred to her?

Questions on **Aphrodite**: Of what is she the goddess? How was she born? Who is her husband? What are her tree/birds? How would you characterize her personality?

Questions on **Hermes**: Who were his parents? What does he look like? What's his magic wand called? What did he invent? What's his personality like? Of what is he the god? What is his function for the realm of the dead?

Questions on **Ares**: Who are his parents? Of what is he the god? What's his personality like? Who are his companions on the battlefield? Why are their names apt? Who is his bird/animal? With whom did he have an illicit affair?

Questions on **Hephaestus**: What makes him different from the other gods? Who are his parents? What is his job? Who is his wife? Who helps him in his tasks? What is his relationship to volcanoes? Who does he protect on earth?

Questions on **Hestia**: Of what is she goddess? How does she fit into the Olympian family? What was her role in founding colonies? What were the priestesses who guarded her flame in Rome called?

The Lesser Gods of Olympus

Eros: Of what is he the god? What is his relationship to Aphrodite? How is he frequently represented? Who were his attendants and what do their names mean?

Hebe: Of what was she goddess? Who were her parents? Who does she marry? What is her office at Olympus? Who is **Ganymede**?

Iris: Of what is she goddess? What is her job?

The Graces: How many were there? What did their names mean? What would they do at banquets? Could one go on vacation without the others?

Muses: How many were there? Who were their parents? What were their names and their particular fields?

Who were **Themis**, **Dike**, **Nemesis** and **Aidos**?

The Gods of the Waters

Who were the **Oceanids**?

Who was **Nereus' father**? What other (long) name did **Nereus** go by? What were the names of his 50 daughters? How did **Thetis** and **Amphitrite**, two of his daughters, distinguish themselves?

Who was **Triton**? Who were his parents? With what object is he associated?

What were **Proteus**' two useful powers?

Who were the **Naiads**? How did they differ from the **Nereids**?

The Underworld

Names to know (identify each): Hades, Persephone, Charon, Cerberus, Styx, Lethe, Elysian Fields, Asphodel.

What kind of mood exists in Hades? How is it set up? What is the role of the three judges?

Who were the **Furies** (the **Erinyes**)? What gate do true dreams come through? False?

The Lesser Gods of Earth

Of what were **Demeter** and **Dionysus**, respectively, goddess and god?

Pan: Who was his father? He's part animal--which animal? Where did he live? What instrument did he play? How would you characterize his luck with the ladies? What's the relationship between him and our word "panic"? What's his personality like?

Silenus: What animal does he ride and why? Who did he teach? What do you think he looks like?

The Sileni: These creatures were part human and part what?

The **Satyrs**, **Dryads** or **Hamadryads**: Who/what were they? Where did they hang out? Look like?

Aeolus: Of what was he king? What were the Greek names of the four chief winds and their direction?

Chiron: What type of creature was he? What would he look like? For what was he known?

Gorgons: What did they look like?

The Graiae: What was unusual about this trio of old women?

The Sirens: What awful thing were they known to do to sailors?

The Fates: What is their Greek name? What did they do? What was the meaning of **Clotho**, **Lachesis**, and **Atropos**' names and how do they reflect their duties?

Read the section on **Castor and Pollux** and **The Roman Gods**. You will not, however, be held accountable for the information found in those pages, except for the following:

Castor & Pollux: Who are they, and what is the story connected with the two?

Roman Gods: What are the Numina? What are the Lares and Penates? Who does Saturn correspond to and how is he connected with the golden age? Who is Janus & why is January an appropriate month to be named after him? Who do Faunus and the fauns correspond to in Greek mythology?